(b) The Public Sector Undertakings/ autonomous bodies/quasi public bodies who have desired/utilised the services of the Inspection Wing of the DGS & D for inspection of some of their stores during the last three years are as under:

1. Bharat Heavy Electricals Bhopal.

2. National Building Construction Corpn. New Delhi.

3. Coal India.

4. Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur.

5. Vesvesvarayya Iron & Steel Ltd. Bhadravati.

6. Rourkela Steel Plant.

7. Calcutta Metropolitan Development Agency Calcutta.

8. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. New Delhi/Bimbay.

9. Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Development Corpn. Bombay.

(c) The inspections so far carried out reveal that DGS&D Inspection Wing services are being mainly utilised by State Governments mainly for inspection and testing of all types of water carrying pipes and submersible pumps required for their water supply projects.

Public Sector Undertakings are utilising the inspection services of the DGS&D for inspection of pines of all types, electrical items and refractories etc.

Trade Agreement with Bangladesh

4199. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo- Bangladesh trade review talks which included the renewal of the existing Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement was held at New Delhi recently;

(b) whether according to him there is big scope for industrial economic and technical co-operation between the two countries;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof indicating the manner in which two way Indo-Bangla trade amounted in 1990-91 and 1991-92 and what are the prospective for 1992--93 in the context of India's liberalised export-import policy; and

(d) whether India also signed similar agreements with any other foreign countries during the last six months, if so, names thereof and with the scope of trade cooperative?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Indo-Bangladesh trade was as follows:—

(in Rs. Crores)

Year	Exports	Imports	Total	Bala nce
1990-91	547.44	31.29	578.73	516.15
1991-92	809.44	14.16	823.60	795.2 8

The prospects for 1992-93 would be guided by the different market forces in both the countries viz., exportable surplus, demand-supply position, price competitiveness, etc. The liberalised Export-Import Policy would enable free trade in certain items like newsprint, fertilizers, etc.

(d) During the last six months, India has signed Trade Agreements on Trade, Economic relations and Science and Technology with the Republics of Kazakistan & Kyrghystan. Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreements have also been signed with the Governments of Ukraine, Turkmenistan and Russian Federation. In addition, a Protocol has also been signed with China for resumption of border trade.

India's Trade Position

4200. SHRI SOM PAL:
DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to two news items that have appeared in the Times of India of the 22nd and 24th July, 1992 respectively stating that our exports in dollar terms have declined and that our imports in dollar terms have registered a steep rise in recent months;

(b) if so, what are the figures in dollars and item-wise break up and the trends as compared to the preceding three years;

(c) what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what a measures have been initiated or are contemplated to rectify this negative phenomenon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The Government is aware of the news item that appeared in the Times of India on 24th July 1992 under the caption Trade deficit up as imports surge in April-May". The news item basically analysed the treds in India's foreign trade during April-May' 92.

(b) It is presumed that hon Hon'ble Member is interested in figures of India's export and import during April-May 1992 in US Dollar terms and the trends as compared to the corresponding period of the proceeding three years. The details, separately for exports and imports are given below:

(US $ Million)

	Apr.-May 89	Apr.-May 90	Apr.-May 91	Apr.-May 92
Exports	2555	2949	2777	2667
Imports	3148	3592	2896	3512

(c) The reasons for the negative growth of exports in dollar terms include collapse of the erstwhile Soviet Union, sluggish world trade which increased by only 1.8 per cent in 1991, the severe import compression in the preceding year resulting in decline in industrial production which in turn affected exports, domestic inflation which remained unabated in 1991-92 and created an anti-export bias for products etc